



# Food to Farm: food organics collection trial in apartment buildings

## How to get involved

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City of Port Phillip ASSIST

📞 03 9209 6777 🌐 [portphillip.vic.gov.au/contact-us](https://portphillip.vic.gov.au/contact-us)



# Food waste in apartment buildings

**In 2019, City of Port Phillip waste audits identified that food waste makes up approximately 36 per cent of the contents of the garbage bin in our apartment buildings.**

When it goes to landfill, food waste produces harmful greenhouse gases. Instead food waste can be a resource, it can be converted into valuable compost to be used on land throughout Victoria.

To help our communities living in apartment buildings to recycle food waste, we have partnered with waste education service, Reground, to introduce a food organics (FO) collection service in three apartment buildings in our City. The collected food waste will be converted into compost and mulch products at a facility in regional Victoria.

We are inviting interested residents with the support of their Owners Corporation to apply for this opportunity. If you think your apartment building would benefit from this, read on.

## What's on offer?

- Participation in a collaborative program targeted at diverting food waste from landfill.
- Pre-trial waste audit and waste room inspection by Reground with targeted recommendations to help maximise resource recovery in your building.
- Kitchen caddies for each apartment to collect their food waste.
- Food organic bin collection for a period of six-months.
- Supported launch of the food organics service and ongoing education for the period of the trial.
- Five spot-check minor waste inspections throughout the trial and a post-trial waste audit to check on your progress.
- The potential to reduce how much your building pays for waste management by diverting food waste from garbage bins.

## How does the food organics collection service work?

Residents can participate in the trial by collecting all food scraps and leftovers into a benchtop kitchen caddy given to them before the trial starts. At any time, you can empty your caddy into the food organics bins that will be located in your building's waste room. Bins will be collected weekly and regularly cleaned to manage smells and pests.

We'll work with you throughout the trial to make sure everything is running smoothly and to make sure the bins are being well used.

## What does it cost?

There is no cost to participate in this trial.

Following pre-trial waste audits and inspection of bin infrastructure, Reground may recommend additional waste services to maximise resource recovery e.g. the introduction of a dedicated cardboard recycling service. The cost for introduction of additional waste services will be covered by the Owners Corporation.

## Is your building eligible?

To be considered for the Food to Farm program your apartment building will:

- be 10 or more storeys high and contain more than 85 units/apartments
- have an engaged building manager and/or cleaning/facilities staff who will:
  - act as a point of contact for the project
  - monitor bin use and report any issues to Council
  - place food waste bins out for collection on designated days
  - provide building access to Council/Reground at pre-arranged times
  - display educational materials (provided) in common areas.
- have a designated waste area with space for additional FO bins.
- submit signed approval to participate in the program from the Owners Corporation.
- demonstrate a willingness to make and pay for any reasonable changes to existing waste infrastructure.

## How to apply

Please complete the online [Expression of Interest Form](#) by 5pm, 30 April 2021, accompanied by the following supporting documentation:

- written approval from the building Owners Corporation demonstrating their support to participate in the trial project.
- letter of support from Building Manager, or equivalent, demonstrating their commitment to collaborate on the project.
- images of the building's waste infrastructure including bin rooms, waste chutes and signage, as described in the EOI form.

**Please submit supporting documents via email to [dontwasteit@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:dontwasteit@portphillip.vic.gov.au)**

**Applications close on 5pm, 30 April 2021. Late applications cannot be accepted.**